

REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee and add claim 36.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

3. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the contact member (1) is arrangeable, in a position of use, between the foreskin (2) and the corona (3) of a penis (4).

6. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 1 [any of the preceding claims], wherein the contact member (1) constitutes an inner member of the catheter device, the catheter device further comprising an outer holder member (12) for retaining the contact member (1) in the position of use, said outer holder member (12) being formed in a distal end section thereof with an opening for said discharge conduit (7) and being arrangeable, in said position of use, in a substantially fixed axial position with respect to the discharge conduit (7) for circumferential engagement with the external side of the foreskin (3).

7. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 1 [any of the preceding claims], wherein the membrane (9) is attached to said surrounding surface by means of an adhesive (23).

8. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 6], wherein the membrane (9) is attached to said surrounding surface by means of a rivet member (24).

9. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to

claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 6], wherein the membrane (9) is attached to said surrounding surface by welding.

10. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 9], wherein the membrane (9) is adapted to allow passage of urine at pressures more than 80 mbar above ambient pressure.

11. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 1 [any of the preceding claims], wherein said aperture (8) is provided in the discharge conduit (7) of the contact member (1) and said shield (10) comprises a tubular member (20) surrounding the discharge conduit (7) to cover said aperture (8) and the membrane (9) attached to said surrounding surface.

12. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 6 [claims 6 and 11], wherein said tubular member (20) forms part of the outer holder member (12).

15. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 13 [or 14], wherein said tubular member (20) forms an integral part of said outer holder member (12) and is connected by said fastening means with a proximal part of the discharge conduit (7) of the inner member (1).

18. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 13 [any of claims 13 to 15], wherein said fastening means comprises a thermal or an ultrasonic welding bond.

19. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to claim 1 [any of the preceding claims], wherein said vent comprises at least one opening (11, 14) in said shield (10) in flow communication with the external surface of the membrane (9).

20. (amended) The external urinary catheter device according to

claim 1 [any of the preceding claims], wherein the membrane (9) is depressed with respect to said surrounding surface to provide a clearance with respect to said shield (10) and said vent comprises at least one track (18, 29, 30) formed by a depression in an internal surface of said shield (10) and/or said surrounding surface part to provide a gas flow communication between said clearance and the exterior of the catheter device.

23. (amended) The method according to claim 21 [or 22], further comprising the step of providing the catheter part with an outer holder member (12) for retaining the contact member (1) in a position of use as an inner member between the foreskin (2) and the corona (3) of a penis (4), said outer holder member (12) being formed in a distal end section with an opening for said discharge conduit (7) and being adapted for arrangement, in a position of use, in a substantially fixed axial position with respect to the discharge conduit (7) for circumferential engagement with the external side of the foreskin (2).

24. (amended) The method according to claim 22 [claims 22 and 23], wherein said tubular member (20) is formed as part of the outer holder member (12).

27. (amended) The method according to claim 25 [or 26], wherein said fastening means is provided by a thermal or an ultrasonic welding.

28. (amended) The method according to claim 21 [any of claims 21 to 27], wherein said catheter part is provided by a process comprising the steps of a) providing a liquid polymer solution or emulsion comprising a polymer and a solvent or a diluent in an amount sufficient for permitting dip forming, b) providing a form having a first part for forming said contact member, a second part for forming said opening in the distal end section of the contact member and a third part for forming said

discharge conduit, said first, second and third parts being integrally connected, c) dipping said form in said solution or emulsion, d) removing the form from the solution or emulsion, e) allowing the solvent or the diluent to evaporate, and f) optionally, repeating the steps c), d), and e) until the device has attained a desired wall thickness, and wherein, prior to dipping according to step c) or during evaporation according to step e), said membrane is arranged at the part of the form for forming the distal part of the contact member or at the third part of the form for forming the discharge conduit.

29. (amended) The method according to claim 21 [any of claims 21 to 27], wherein said catheter part is provided by a process comprising the steps of providing a mould comprising a matrix and a core member defining a mould cavity for plastic injection moulding, said cavity comprising a first part for forming said contact member, a second part for forming said opening in the distal end section of the contact member and a third part for forming said discharge conduit, said first, second and third parts being integrally connected, injection of a liquid plastic material into said mould cavity, solidification of the liquid plastic material, and recovering the moulded device from the mould, and wherein said membrane is arranged at the part of the cavity for forming the distal part of the contact member or the third part of the cavity for forming the discharge conduit.

34. (amended) A kit for relief of male urinary incontinence comprising an external urinary catheter device according to claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 20, 31 or 33], a bag for collection of urine discharged from the catheter device, and a hose member for connecting the catheter device and the bag.

35. (amended) Use of the external urinary catheter device according to claim 1 [any of claims 1 to 20, 31 or 33 or the kit according to claim 34] for relief of male urinary incontinence.